



Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-2021

QUESTION ON NOTICE

NICOLE LAWDER MLA: To ask the Minister for Women

Ref: CALD Women Information Packs

In relation to:

1. When will information packs outlining health issues for ACT CALD women and families be available in ACT schools and GP surgeries?
2. Why has this initiative taken so long to be delivered?

RACHEL STEPHEN-SMITH MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. In 2016 under the First Action Plan of the ACT Women's Plan, ACT Health Directorate (ACTHD) committed to *Action 2.46: Create an information pack for ACT GP Surgeries and Schools outlining: Health issues for ACT CALD women and their families; difficulties CALD women face accessing health care; what services are available for CALD families in the ACT; and how GPs and schools can assist CALD families to access assistance.*

Women's Health Matters (WHM) agreed to support ACTHD to achieve this action by drafting an information sheet, in consultation with ACTHD, using their survey of CALD women as the basis for the content. A health promotion resource (i.e. a factsheet) is intended to be completed and published by the end of June 2022. ACTHD will support WHM with the distribution of this resource across ACT GP surgeries and schools from June - December 2022.

2. To inform the health promotion resource being drafted by WHM for ACTHD, WHM is developing a research report, which has required additional stakeholder engagement, including:

In-language focus groups

Two focus groups have been held in partnership with local ACT women's organisations and the analysis of these focus groups will be included in the WHM report:

- Bengali language focus group, in partnership with Alo Enlightened Women (1 January 2021); and
- Arabic language focus group, in partnership with Canberra Multicultural Women's Forum (12 March 2021).

Key informant interviews

Key informant interviews with service providers were intended to be undertaken through February 2022 but were delayed due to the 2021-22 COVID-19 outbreak and competing priorities.

WHM has begun consulting informally with key stakeholders, and will continue over March and April 2022, for the purpose of understanding health promotion opportunities and best practice in other jurisdictions.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Signature:



Date:

22 / 3 / 22

By the Minister for Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA